

AMENDMENT NO. _____

Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 1715*

House Bill No. 1684

FILED

Date _____

Time _____

Clerk _____

Comm. Amdt. _____

by deleting all of the amendatory language following the enacting clause and substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-101, is amended by deleting subsection (f) and by substituting instead the following:

(f)(1) Through a system of competitive grants and technical assistance provided as funding is available, the state department of education may establish, administer and monitor pilot programs of community-based early childhood education and pre-kindergarten programs. Such programs shall be designed to comprehensively address the educational, health and social service needs of children, who are not otherwise eligible for similar programs or who do not have access to such programs, who are ages three (3) and four (4), who live below the poverty line determined pursuant to 42 United States Code, Section 9847 and/or who are at risk of educational disadvantage and failure due to circumstances of abuse, neglect, disability, or who are at risk of state custody due to family dysfunction. A reasonable, sliding fee scale based upon the family's income may be established for a student enrolled in any such program.

(2) All early childhood education and pre-kindergarten programs established under this subsection shall be developed through a collaborative effort of the departments of education, health, children's services, and human services, and shall build upon resources and services within the community. Efforts should be made by the interdepartmental group to gather

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recommendations from those with expertise in early childhood education, those whose families may have need of such services, and others at the community level who may have particular interest in such programs. Programs should strive to assist families by providing full-day, year-round services. Programs should include a daily component of developmentally appropriate educational activities and, where possible, child care for the children of parents who need extended day services.

(3) Acting in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 5, the department of education, in consultation with the other affected departments, shall promulgate such rules as shall be reasonably necessary to effectively and efficiently implement the provisions of this act. Such rules shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, policies governing staff qualifications and training, including reasonable timelines for programs to meet the standards established by such rules.

(4) At least once each year, a report of findings and recommendations shall be submitted to the governor, state board of education and general assembly.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on July 1, 1996, the public welfare requiring it.